



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Shimura KAZUHIRO

Application No.: 09/923,949

Filed: August 8, 2001

For: PNEUMATIC TIRE AND MEASURING METHOD OF TREAD WEAR AMOUNT
OF THE SAME

Attorney Docket No.: OGW-0040

Examiner: S. Maki

Art Unit: 1733

Confirmation No. 2066

#5/1622E
4/28/03

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated April 3, 2003, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-6, drawn to a pneumatic tire with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search of the subject matter of any one group of claims would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP 803 which is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims that are distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added).

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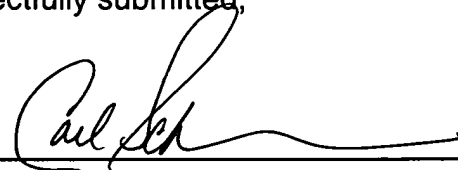
GROUP 1700

It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply to the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and the duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 24, 2003

By:



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